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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of :
Kazufumi Ogawa et al. :
Application No. 09/694,575 :
Patent No. RE39045 : DECISION ON PETITION
Filed: October 24, 2000 : UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.378(C)
Issue Date: March 28, 2006 :
Attorney Docket No.: :
356972000203 :
Title: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING :
A FLUOROCARBON-BASED COATING :
FILM :

This is a decision on the petition filed on July 11, 2006, under 37 C.F.R. §1.378(c)¹, to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

The present patent is a reissue of patent number 5,538,762, which issued on July 23, 1996.

The grace period for paying the 7-½ year maintenance fee provided in 37 C.F.R. §1.362(e) expired at midnight on July 23,

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- 1 A grantable petition pursuant to 37 C.F.R §1.378(c) must be accompanied by:
- (1) The maintenance fee as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §§1.362(e) and 1.20;
 - (2) The surcharge for accepting a maintenance fee after expiration of a patent for non-timely payment of a maintenance fee, as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.20;
 - (3) A statement that the delay was unintentional from a proper party in interest, and;
 - (4) The petition must be filed within 24 months of the date of expiration.

2004, with no payment received. Accordingly, the patent expired on July 23, 2004 at midnight.

The present petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.378(c) is **GRANTED**.

The petition was timely filed within twenty-four months after the expiration of the six-month grace period. As required, petitioner submitted with the petition the required maintenance fee, the surcharge for accepting an unintentionally delayed maintenance fee after expiration, and a statement that the delay in payment of the maintenance fee was unintentional.

Accordingly, the maintenance fee in this case is hereby accepted and the above-identified patent is hereby reinstated as of the mail date of this decision.

The general phone number for the Office of Petitions which should be used for status requests is (571) 272-3282. Telephone inquiries regarding this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3225. Inquiries pertaining to the submission of maintenance fees should be directed to the Maintenance Fee branch at 571-272-6500.



Paul Shanowski
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United States Patent and Trademark Office